

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6293
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
USMISSION GENEVA
JEEHVI/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW JHROE
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS WARSAW 6180

EO 11652: NA
ZYGS: SHUM PL US UR
SUBJ: POLISH PRESS PLAY CONTINUES ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S
"POLITICAL PRISONERS" STATEMENT

1. AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG'S ASSERTION THAT THERE
ARE HUNDREDS OR PERHAPS THOUSANDS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS
IN THE UNITED STATES CONTINUE TO REVERBERATE IN
THE POLISH PRDQAS.

2. SEVERAL WARSAW DAILIES ON JULY 13 RAN A SHORT
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POLISH NEWS AGENCY (PAP) SPOT REPORT ON PRESIDENT
CARTER'S REBUKE OF YOUNG. THE PARTY DAILY TRYBUNA
LUDU IN ITS JULY 15 - 16 EDITION PUBLISHED A
DISPATCH FROM ITS US CORRESPONDENT WLODZIMIERZ
LOZINSKI WHO CLAIMED "THE ENTIRE US RIGHT
HAS LAUNCHED AN ATTACK ON ANDREW YOUNG, THE
FIRST BLACK AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS".

LOZINSKI WROTE THAT YOUNG, IN HIS INTERVIEW WITH LE MATIN, "DISCLOSES A FACT WHICH US AUTHORITIES KEEP HIDDEN, PARTICULARLY NOW WHEN THE ADMINISTRATION IS VOICING SLOGANS FOR THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS .. IT IS WELL KNOWN, HOWEVER, THAT IN US JAILS THERE ARE NUMEROUS GROUPS OF NATIONAL MINORITY ACTIVITIS CONVICTED FOR FIGHTING FOR EQUAL RIGHTS FOR INDIANS, LATIN AMERICANS, BLACKS, AND OTHER MINORITIES. THE US AUTHORITIES ARE DENYING THESE PEOPLE THEIR RIGHTS AS POLITICAL PRISONERS AND TREAT THEM AS ORDINARILY CRIMINALS. A LARGE GROUP OF BLACKS CONVICTED IF ANTI-RACIST ACTIVITIES AT THE END OF THE SIXTIES, FOR INSTANCE, IS STILL SERVING PRISON SENTENCES .. IN THE OPINION OF AMERICAN REACTION, ANDREW YOUNG UNDERMINED THE BELIEF IN THE IMPECCABLY MORALITY OF US POWER MACHINERY, A MORALITY WHICH IS VOICED SO FREQUENTLY AND SO WILLINGLY, CHIEFLY FOR EXTERNAL BENEFIT."

3. EDITORIALIST FRANCISZEK NIETZ IN ZYCIE WARSZAWY OF JULY 17 WRTOE THAT "YOUNG SIMPLY STATED A KNOWN TRUTH PUBLICLY", AND PRAISED HIM FOR "THE UNCOMPROMISING SINCERITY OF HIS OPINIONS AND COURAGE OF HIS JUDGEMENTS". NIETZ RIDICULED UNCLASSIFIED

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SECRETARY OF STATE VANCES. CRITICISM OF THE TIMING OF YOUNG'S STATEMENT "AS THOUGH THERE EXISTED SEPARATE TIMES TO BE SILENT AND TO SPEAK THE TRUTH". NIETZ, IN REFERENCE TO RUMBLES FROM THE US RIGHTDEMANDING YOUNG'S RESIGNATION, CONCLUDED: "THE BLACK POLITICIAN WILL CERTAINLY REMAIN IN HIS POSITION. HE WILL HOWEVER HAVE TO LIMIT SIGNIFICANTLY AND TONE DOWN HIS STRAIGHTFORWARD AND UNCOMFORTABLY WORDS FOR THE WHITE HOUSE."

4. WARSAW DAILIES JULY 19 CARRIED A PAP ARTICLE ON REACTION IN THE UNITED STATES TO YOUNG'S STATEMENT. THE ARTICLE INCLUDED A TASS REPORT THAT FIVE BALCK CONGRESSMEN AGREED WITH YOUNG THAT THERE ARE POLITICAL PRISONERS IN THE UNITED STATES: "THE CONGRESSMEN EMPHAISZED THAT (THE TERM 'POLITICAL PRISONER') CONCERNS HUNDREDS OR THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHTS OF COLORED PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATE." PAP ALSO INCLUDED A SUMMARY BY CORRESPONDENT STANISLAW GLABINSKI OF A WILLIAM RASPBERRY VOLUMN IN THE JULY 17 WASHINGTON POST ENTITLED "WAS YOUNG REALLY

FAR FROM THE TRUTH?". THE PAP ARTICLE ALSO
CITES AN EDITORIAL FROM THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE
MONITOR WHICH IS ALLEGED TO CHALLENGE CRITICS
OF DETENTE TO PROPOSE A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE.

5. A PAP DISPATCH DATED NEW YORK AND PUBLISHED
IN TRYBUNA LUDU JULY 20 ACCUSED THE MAJORITY
OF THE AMERICAN PRESS OF NEGLECTING "SOME FORMULATIONS
FROM THE CONTROVERSIAL INTERVIEW OF THE AMERICAN
DIPLOMAT". FEW PAPERS, PAP ALLEGED, MENTIONED
YOUNG'S STATEMENT THAT "AS A BLACK ACTIVIT FOR
EQUAL RIGHTS IN THE UNITED STATES HE HIMSELF --
ARRESTED AND IMPRISONED MANY TIMES -- WAS A
POLITICAL PRISONER". "SOME NEWSPAPERS, THE UNSIGNED
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REPORT CONTINUED, "PERCEIVED THE DANGERS HIDDEN
BEHIND THE ATTACK ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND ALSO
CONSIDERED THE THREAT TO DETENTE POSED BY THE
ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIG, WAGED IN CONNECTION WITH THE

TRIALS OF SHCHARANSKY AND GINSBURG. AS IS KNOWN,
THE STATEMENT OF AMBASSADOR YOUNG WHICH PROVOKED
THE RAGE OF CONSERVATIVE CIRCLES REFERRED TO THESE
TRIALS."

6. THE PAP DISPATCH CLAIMED THAT ANTI-SOVIET
CAMPAIGNS ARE CONDUCTED IN THE UNITED STATES
ONLY "WHEN IT SUITS AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY".
IT CHARGED THAT USG COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE CONVICTION
OF TWO U.S., REPORTERS FOR LIBEL BY A SOVIET
COURT WERE HYPOCRITICAL, CLAIMING THE USG WAS
SILENT WHEN TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL CORRESPONDENT
ROSS MUNRO WAS EXPELLED FROM THE PRC LAST FALL
FOR A SERIES OF ARTICLES CRITICAL OF CHINESE
HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES. THE PAP DISPATCH CONCLUDES
THAT THE ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHINA, BECAUSE
OF THE UNITED STATES "FLIRT" WITH THE PRC, IS
"A TABOO SUBJECT IN THE AMERICAN PRESS".
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